

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Kazutoyo MAEHARA et al.  
Appl. No. : 09/821,267  
Filed : March 29, 2001  
Group Art Unit : 2152  
Examiner : Chad ZHONG  
Confirmation No. : 4470  
For : INFORMATION PROCESSING SYSTEM, METHOD FOR  
MESSAGE COMMUNICATIONS, RECORDING MEDIUM, AND  
COMPUTER PROGRAM



**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
Customer Service Window, Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98 and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statements that were previously filed on April 14, 2004 and June 5, 2002, Applicants submit a copy of a Notice of Reasons for Rejection that was mailed on December 16, 2004, with respect to patent family member Japanese Patent Application No. 2000-351913, together with an English language translation of the same, in which the following documents were cited:

(1) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 11-259568, together with an English language abstract and partial English language translation of the same;

(2) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. HEI 11-143616, together with an English language abstract and partial English language translation of the same; and

(3) Japanese Laid-Open Patent Publication No. 2000-003316, together with an English language abstract and partial English language translation of the same.

The relevance of each document to the Japanese claims, as ascertained by the Japanese Examiner, is set forth in the Notice of Reasons for Rejection.

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Applicants note that Japanese patent documents (1) and (2) and their English language abstracts were previously cited in an Information Disclosure Statement and thus copies are not being provided.

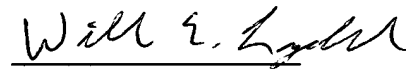
Applicants additionally note that the partial English language translations of documents (1) and (2) are different from the translations that were previously cited and thus copies are attached. A copy of document (3), its English language abstract and partial English language translation, and copies of the Notice of Reasons for Rejection and its English language translation are also attached. All of the above-noted documents are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to applicants with the next official communication in the present application.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e), the undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was

first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement. Of course, this statement does not apply to information that has previously been cited by Applicants or the Examiner in the present application as that information is already of record and no certification is necessary.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Kazutoyo MAEHIRO et al.

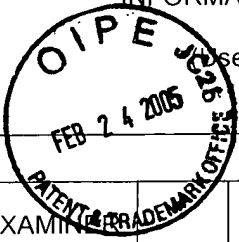
  
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Application No.  
09/821,267

Group  
2152

[illegible][illegible]

		1	English language Abstract of JP 11-259568.
		2	English language Abstract of JP 11-143616.
		3	English language Abstract of JP2000-003316.

\*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

**BEST AVAILABLE COPY**